

Message Text

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3871

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KE, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO KENYA: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR KENYA

1. SUMMARY: IN THE EXPECTATION THAT KENYANS WILL RAISE WITH THE SECRETARY THE FINANCING OF F-5E MILITARY ASSISTANCE PACKAGE, WE BELIEVE THE FOLLOWING UPDATE OF TRAINING ELEMENT OF THAT PACKAGE MAY BE USEFUL. TRAINING IS ONLY ITEM IN PACKAGE FOR WHICH U.S. HAS SOUGHT TO PROVIDE GRANT AID, AND KENYANS HAVE HOPED ALL ALONG THAT GRANT FUNDS WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO COVER HIGH-COST TRAINING ASSOCIATED WITH FMS PURCHASE OF NEW AIRCRAFT. AMOUNT BUDGETED THUS FAR (\$1.3 MILLION THROUGH FY 77) IS INSUFFICIENT, AND AN ADDITIONAL \$1.5 MILLION WILL BE NEEDED IN FY 78. END SUMMARY.

2. WITH ASSISTANCE OF USEUCOM AND USAF, WE HAVE JUST COMPLETED A REVIEW OF THE GRANT MILITARY TRAINING FUNDS BUDGETED FOR KENYA IN THE FISCAL YEARS 76, 77, 78 AND 79, WHICH COMPRISE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE F-5E PACKAGE BEING DEVELOPED FOR FORMAL OFFER TO GOK. ALTHOUGH FUNDING OF APPROXIMATELY \$1.3 MILLION FOR FY76 THROUGH 77 WAS ORIGINALLY THOUGHT ADEQUATE TO COVER

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THE BULK OF KENY'S F-5E PILOT TRAINING NEEDS, PRICE

INCREASES HAVE SEVERELY REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF TRAINING THAT CAN BE PROVIDED FOR THIS SUM OF MONEY. AT CURRENT PRICES, AND ASSUMING FULLEST UTILIZATION OF GRANT FUNDS BEDGETED FOR FY76 THROUGH 77, WE HAVE ESTIMATED THAT KENYA WILL REQUIRE APPROXIMATELY \$1.5 MILLION IN FY 78 TO COMPLETE PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM AND TO TRAIN MINIMUM NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE CADRES.

3. AS WE UNDERSTAND SITUATION, NO PLANNING FUGURE HAS YET BEEN DEVELOPED FOR FY 78 GRANT MILITARY TRAINING FOR KENYA. IDEALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE FULL AMOUNT OF \$1.5 MILLION PROVIDED ON GRANT BASIS, WHICH WILL ENABLE KENYA TO CONCENTRATE ITS SCARCE FOREIGN CURRENCY RESERVES ON EQUIPMENT PURCHASES. NEVERTHELESS, UNTIL WE HAVE SOME ASSURANCE THAT THIS IS POSSIBLE, WE RECOMMEND THAT ALL CONVERSATIONS WITH GOK CONCERNING FINANCING OF AIRCRAFT PACKAGE CONTAIN APPROPRIATE CAVEATS REFLECTING UNCERTAINTY OF FY 78 BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR GRANT TRAINING. FURTHER, WE RECOMMEND THAT SECDEF IN DEVELOPING LETTER OF OFFER FOR F-5E PACKAGE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PROSPECTS FOR MAP FUNDING OF KENYA'S TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.
MARSHALL

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